NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1899.—SIXTEEN PAGES.

ABSOLUTE SILENCE FALLS OVER SOUTH AFRICA.

CABLES ARE WORKING SATISFACTORILY. BUT THE PUBLIC IS KEPT IN SUS-PENSE-DISPATCHES FROM BUL-LER KEPT BACK.

INT CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.] London, Dec. 2, 6 a. m., There is a remarkable absence of news from South Africa this morning, and as the cables are working satisfactorily it is clear that the continued ignorance of the public concerning the fight at Modder River is not the result of accident. Nothing is yet intimated as to even the probable extent of the damage received by the British troops or of that

"The Standard's" correspondent with the force advancing to the relief of Ladysmith telegraphed commandos had on the previous day passed to It was supposed that their objective point; was maritzburg telegram, dated Tuesday, states that there had been a slight artillery duel near Colenso, and the Boers were in possession

"The Standard's" correspondent with Lord rent in the camp before the battle that the whole of the Boer forces had crossed the river, and concentrated at Spytfontein.

It was stated at the War Office last night that dispatches had been received from General Buller, but they were not issued to the press. It was incidentally mentioned that the rank and file casualties at Modder River had not yet been

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH

ITS EFFECT ON BRITISH OPINION-PROG-RESS OF THE WAR IN AFRICA.

INT CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.] London, Dec. 2, 1 a. m .- The embargo upon war news when the two relief columns are preparing for decisive battles beyond the Tugela and Modder has enabled Mr. Chamberlain to command the attention of England. The after papers took up their parable yesterday from the morning press, and the weekly journals to-day ring the changes upon his new rendering of Lord Salisbury's simple theme that England's relations with both the United States and Germany were all that could be desired. Mr. Chamberlain is neither a diplomatist nor a lawyer, but he knows what is going on in the world and how to make practical use of the opome and abroad. He has directed attention to the good feeling now existing between Anglo-Saxon and Teutonic races as a fact of worldwide importance, and thereby he has helped to strengthen it. He used the phrase "triple allionly to qualify it in the next breath by reducing it to an understanding based upon the nmon interests to which Mr. Reld referred at the New-York Chamber of Commerce dinner and Mr. Choate subsequently in London. The practical result is that everybody in England and Germany is talking about the era of good ing in the relations of the thre great progressive nations in the world. Chamberlain may not be a diplomatist, but in this instance he has helped to clear the atmosphere and bring the three countries into closer and more helpful relations.

MILITARY STAFF CRITICISED.

list and full details of the battle of Modder River has not only prolonged and deepened the anxiety of the swarms of visitors to the War Office, but it has also revived criticism of the shortcomings of the military staff responsible for the organization of the army corps and the direction of the campaign. Lord Methuen's last battle remains a mystery, but it is plain that it would have been won more easily if the British army had been provided with more horse and field artillery, and especially with howitzer batteries capable of firing lyddite shells. There is much faultfinding over the delay in sending out howitzer batteries, and the neglect of the Admiralty to supply rapid sea transports for artillery of every class. The War Office has no explanations to offer, and military writers agree that this was a serious flaw in the preparations for the campaign. The lack of an adequate force of cavalry is another obvious point of criticism. But the Military Staff will have a clear line of defence against this charge. It contends that India could not be stripped of its cavalry service, and that this branch was too small to meet the emergency of the war in South Africa. There will be a strong effort made when Parliament meets to add several regiments of lancers to the army, and to convert some battalions into mounted infantry, instead of having a single company in each regiment provided

While the Queen received an assurance from General Methuen early yesterday that the wounded were doing well, the casualty list was held back owing to defective cable facilities hour after hour. It was generally understood to be in possession of the War Office late in the evening, but it required careful checking of names. The impression prevailed there that the losses would not be so serious as had been apprehended. Colonel Sumner, the military attaché of the American Embassy. stated yesterday that, apart from prisoners, the casualties on the British side had not been so heavy in any engagement as they were in the Santiago battles, where 1,200 were killed or wounded, out of 16,000 engaged.

SIMILAR LINES OF DEFENCE.

The similarity of the military situations on the Modder and the Tugela rivers is remarkable. Each relief column is within twenty miles of the beleaguered garrison, and a river in each case has formed the line of Boer defence. In each quarter the military operations are concealed from view by the rigorous censorship.

but both garrisons are known to be quite safe. From Natal there is in Harmsworth's war torrespondent's report the news that the British mounted infantry and artillery drove back on Tuesday a body of Boers who were attempting to destroy the bridge near Colenso; that the Ladysmith garrison had been heard from that day, and that the bridge at Frere was under rapid repair. Still later a report from Pietermaritzburg states that there had been a light artillery duel near Colenso and that the Boers were holding the bridges.

From Lord Methuen's force there was no

POLAND: POLAND: POLAND! POLAND! Try it! Poland Water Depot. 3 Park Place, N. Y.-

STILL WITHOUT NEWS. | definite news yesterday, apart from the casualty lists in official hands. The tone of the officials at the War Department was confident, and there was no great degree of public anxiety, but a hopeful feeling that the period of suspense would be brought to a close within forty-eight hours by the relief of both Kimber-

ley and Ladysmith. An eminent Englishman remarked yesterday: "We may lack confidence in some of our generals as tacticians, but not in our soldiers as fighting men. They win our battles and never

Evidently it is thought that there cannot be too many of them, for it is generally believed that the two additional divisions now going out will be enlarged into a full army corps. I. N. F.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR METHUEN.

London, Dec. 2 .- It is regarded as practically certain that Lord Methuen has been reinforced by half a battalier of the Gordon Highlanders, regiment of cavalry and a battery of artillery. and that De Aar is being daily reinforced by troops to hold the lines of communication.

It is supposed that the Natal advance has been delayed by the necessity of getting supplies to Pictermantzburg, but not a word emanates from any of the various commands.

Lieutenant General Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke, who, as already announced, will command the Sixth Division, has seen much service in South Africa, particularly in the Zulu and subsequent wars. He has also held a number of high staff appointments at home, and is reputed to be a capable officer.

DROVE BACK THE BOERS AT COLENSO. London, Dec. 1 .- A special dispatch received here to-day from Frere, dated November 28, says that while attempting to blow up a 500-Methuen's column, in a message dispatched from | foot bridge over the river at Colenso, the Boers Klokfontein on Monday, mentions a report cur- | were driven back by British artillery and mounted infantry.

WAR RUMORS IN LONDON. A REPORT THAT LORD METHUEN RESUMED HIS NORTHWARD MARCH ON WEDNESDAY.

London, Dec. 1.-While the rumors of the re lief of Kimberley current on the Stock Exchange this morning may be premature in their literal sense, there seems no doubt that the pressure on the garrison has been much lightened by General Methuen's successes, and the actual relief of the place must seemingly be a fact very shortly. A clew to the urgency reasons which dictated General Methuen's hurried march may be found in Governor Milner's hint to the Relief Committee at Cape Town to prepare for the reception of 10,000 refugees, indicating that the garrison must have had reason to fear the reduction of Kimberley by starvation and disease.

The most recent news from Kimberley comes by way of Pretoria and almost seems to show Kimberley and Mafeking are acting in concerwith General Methuen, for at the time the battle was raging at Gras Pan both Colonel Kekewich and Colonel Baden-Powell made sorties and assailed the besiegers. The result of the Mafeking sortle is not known, but, according to a dispatch from Pretoria, Colonel Kekewich inflicted considerable loss on the Boers, two shells killing nine and wounding seventeen in a group.

The dispatch from Pretoria, dated November 26, said there was a sortle from Mafeking on Saturday, November 25. On the morning of that day the Chartered Police attacked Eloff's Fort with great determination. The fight was in progress when the dispatch was sent.

Several ambulance trains left Mafeking on November 25 for the Free State, where heavy fighting was expected during the coming week, when the Boers, it was added, would resist the advance of the British in the direction of Kimberley.

It is reported that General Methuen resumed his march northward on Wednesday, and exected to form a jun forces on Saturday or Sunday

It is suggested in some quarters that the Boer forces have been withdrawn from the north of Cape Colony and may be hurrying to attack General Methuen's rear. But reinforcements have been pushed rapidly forward from Orange The delay in the publication of the casualty | River and De Aar, and it is believed they will

The brief telegrams coming from Natal and the central theatre of the war convey liftle information about the situation. Naauwpoort reports that half the Colesberg Dutch who responded to the Boer summonses for military service have now returned to their homes; so, perhaps, the serious civil troubles hampering General Gatacre may be lessened and the military operations under his direction will begin.
So far as known, the Ladysmith relief force is still at Frere, though the bridge was perhaps sufficiently repaired to permit of its passage on November 30, in which case the opposing forces may already have come in contact near Colenso, where, apparently, the Boers are strongly intrenched on the north side of the strongly intrenched on the north side of the

CHAMBERLAIN REBUKED.

LORD ROSEBERY CRITICISES THE SPEECH OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

London, Dec. 1 .- Lord Rosebery, speaking at Edinburgh this evening, deprecated Mr. Chamberlain's reference to France in his speech at Leicester, and said:

Leicester, and said:

We have no right to go into the gutters to fish up the derelict press of any country and to hold it up to scorn or as a motive of our polity. It is impossible that the Queen could be besimirched by such attacks, which only recoil on the attackers, and whatever the degraded outburst may mean it does not represent the best or highest opinion of France.

We have been overready to flout other nations, and it is no wonder that Great Britain is unpopular abroad. I do trust that this undiplomatic frankness will cease; for these stinging words rankle long afterward, and it is not for statesmen to speak under the passing irritation of the moment.

BRITISH PRESS EXPRESSES DISSENT.

London, Dec. 1.-With few exceptions the afteron papers dissent from Mr. Chamberlain's Anglo-Saxon-Teutonic alliance speech at Leicester yester-day. "The Pall Mall Gazette" lays stress on the strong anti-German prejudice in Great Britain and declares bluntly that Mr. Chamberlain had better have kept silent.

"The Westminster Gazette" takes the same line, believing Mr. Chamberlain did not represent Government opinion, and pointing out how offensive

the speech was toward France.

"The Globe" maintains it is impossible for Germany to give a quid pro quo for the responsibilities which would accrue to Great Britain by such an "The Evening Standard" says Mr. Chamberlain

referred to no alliance by treaties. "The St. James's Gazette" says: Mr. Chamberlain simply expresses English public opinion, which has come to realize that with Germany and the United States we can work, because with those Powers we have a community of interests and sentiments, whereas with Russia and France we have not.

"The Sun," the only other afternoon newspaper, takes a similar favorable view of the suggested alliance.

SIR EDMUND MONSON MAY WITHDRAW. London, Dec. 1 .- The Paris correspondent of "The Evening News" telegraphs to his paper to-day

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ACTION ON ROBERTS CASE, HITCH OVER COMMITTEES.

UTAH CONGRESSMAN-ELECT NOT TO "THINGS ARE IN THE AIR," SAYS SENA-TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE.

PROMINENT REPUBLICAN REPRESENTA-TIVES DECIDE TO PREVENT HIS BEING

OF ELIGIBILITY IS DECIDED.

Washington, Dec. 1 .- At a conference of prominent Republican members of the House held at the Capitol to-night it was decided that the eligibility of Representative-elect Roberts, of Utah, to occupy a seat in the House of Representatives should be investigated and determined, and that, pending the decision, he should not be permitted to take the oath of office.

This decision was reached by those present without a dissenting voice, Representative Tayler, of Ohio, who will have charge of the matter in the House, explained after the conference had adjourned that this proceeding does not involve a prejudgment of the case, but, irrespective of party, will afford the members an opportunity to vote after a thorough investigation and complete presentation of the case for their consideration. Mr. Tayler had made a study of the allegations and precedents and presented them at length to his colleagues. He offered a plan of procedure, which was agreed to after a general exchange of views. The procedure is

THE PROCEDURE IN THE HOUSE.

When Mr. Roberts appears at the bar of the House to take the oath objection is to be made on the ground that he is ineligible. He will then step aside, and after the other members are sworn in the member making the objection-who probably will be Mr. Tayler-will recite the allegations and offer a resolution for their investigation by a special committee. This will give the House an opportunity to vote in the first instance on the question of postponing the administration of the oath until after the allegations have been investigated. The resolutions have not been formulated, but they will include the investigation of the charge that Mr. Roberts's alleged conviction of violation of the Edmunds act in 1889 renders him ineligible by the terms of that act; whether the fact that he is an avowed polygamist renders him ineligible, and whether the State of Utah fn electing him has ot violated the compact by which she obtained

Mr. Tayler says the precedents for objecting to the swearing in of a member duly elected and bearing proper credentials are numerous and in point. Among others are the well known cares of Proceders Front Parks. and in point. Among others are the well known cares of Proctor Knott. Boyd Winchester and John M. Rice, of Kentucky, who were elected to Congress shortly after the War, and were charged with ineligibility on the ground of disloyalty. All these precedents were cited at the conference to-night. These precedents lead to the conclusion that objection can be properly made to the swearing in of a member where there are apparently well grounded reasons for believing him ineligible. The resolutions will provide for the appointment of a special committee of either seven or nine, to be appointed by the Speaker.

THOSE AT THE CONFERENCE.

Messrs, Henderson, of Iowa; Grosvenor, Shattuck, Southard, Kerr and Tayler, of Ohio; tuck, Southard, Kerr and Tayler, of Onio; McPherson, of Iowa; Dalzell, of Pennsylvania; Payne and Sherman, of New-York; Hill, of Connecticut; Thomas, of Iowa; Alexander and Ray, of New-York; Curtis, of Kansas; Warner, of Illinois; Landis, of Indiana; Cannon, of Illinois; Morris, of Minnesota; Steele, of Indiana, and Long, of Kansas.

The Roberts case is not to come up for consideration at the Republican caucus to-morrow night. The Republican leaders do not design to make the question in any sense a party

to make the question in any sense a party

CONFERENCE ON THE ROBERTS CASE. PROFESSOR I. F. RUSSELL SAYS THAT MORMON-

Neighborhood House, in Rivington-st. The principal address was delivered by Professor Isaac Frank-lin Russell, of the New-York University Law School. Dr. Russell said in part;

The House of Representatives, in my judgment, should expel Mr. Roberts. But it should first admit im to his seat and allow him to participate in the lection of the Speaker. Doubtless the clerk should lace the name of Mr. Roberts on the roll, as on he record there is no prima facie suggestion of ontest or disqualification. The power of either ouse of Congress to expel a member is absolute hispidly or unhappily, there are present

contest or disquisted contest of Congress to expel a member is absolute and unlimited.

Happily or unhappily, there are precedents for the expulsion of members from Congress. In July, 1877, William Blount was expelled from the Senate for "a high misdementor entirely inconsistent with his public trust and duty as a Senator." His offence was an attempt to corrupt an officer at an Indian agency. It was not a statutory erime, nor was it committed in his official character, nor at the seat of government.

Polygamy has not been abandoned. It has become entrenched by the Statchood of Utah and the quasi sovereignty of an independent Commonwealth. Utah is no longer subject to the jurisdiction of Congress over the Territories, which a divided court pronounced to be plenary. By the election of Mr. Roberts Mormonism throws down the gauntlet in the face of law abiding and self-respecting citizens of the Republic. It dares them to assert their authority. Will they hesitate to do it?

At the close of Professor Russell's address there was a discussion. It was unanimously decided that Congress should expell Mr. Roberts.

MISS GOULD'S WAR ON POLYGAMY. SHE HAS SPENT TIME AND MONEY TO SECURE

The arrangements for the anti-polygamy meeting, to be held at Music Hall, Tarrytown, on Tuesday evening, under the direction of Miss Helen M. Gould, are assuming large proportions, and it is probable that the hall will not accommodate all the people, in which case an overflow meeting will be held. Miss Could with some times and the second of the country of the second of the sec be held. Miss Gould, who some time ago manifestbe held. Miss Gould, who some time ago manifested a strong interest in the movement for the expulsion of Brigham H. Roberts from Congress, has spent her time and much money for the purpose of unscating Roberts, and in the last few days has been devoting every possible minute to the movement, of which she has voluntarily assumed the local leadership. Her appeals to the voters and women of the neighborhood have met a generous response, and as a result Congressman John Q. Underhill, of New-Rochelle, has been deluged with petitions and letters requesting him to vote against Roberts. While Mr. Underhill is non-committal and is reported to have said that he would not oppose Roberts. Miss Gould and her supporters believe that he will vote in accordance with the wishes of his constituents. Miss Gould said the wishes of his constituents. Miss Gould said the wind and New-York's representatives in Congress derkill and New ed a strong interest in the movement for the ex-

UNITARIAN WOMEN'S MEETING.

The New-York League of Unitarian Women held its monthly meeting yesterday in the Second Unitarian Church, Clinton and Congress sts. Mrs. Wendell Jackson, of Manhattan presided Mrs. Wendeli Jackson, of Manhattan presided. Mrs. Emil L. Boas read a petition to Congress which was amended and finally passed with one dissenting voice. The petition was to the effect that the league looks upon Mr. Roberts's admission to the House of Representatives as prejudicial to the best interests of the country, and that "Congress use every means to eject Mr. Roberts if it be found that his credentials do not comply with the laws of the country."

TOR PLATT.

MR. FALLOWS WILL NOT TAKE THE CITIES CHAIRMANSHIP UNDER MACHINE CQN-

DITIONS-CONFERENCE OF PLATT. ODELL AND NIXON AT THE

FIFTH AVENUE. "Things are in the air. I hope the atmosphere will have cleared before my return from Washington next week. Then we may be able to

settle things." That was the lucid and comprehensive summing up of the results of the conference between Senator Platt, B. B. Odell, jr., and S. Frederick Nixon in Senator Platt's rooms at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening. It was all Senator Platt would say on the subject, but the newspaper men to whom he spoke understood what he meant. When he said "things are in the it was known that he did not refer to brickbats or dead cats, but to the State Constabulary bill and to chairmanships of certain Assembly committees.

S. Frederick Nixon, the present Speaker, is to be the Speaker of the next Assembly at A! bany, and he has come to the city to consult with Senator Platt and with Chairman Odell of the Republican State Committee as to the makeup of some of the committees he is to appoint. He has not been elected Speaker of the next Assembly yet. He has not even taken the trcuble to make a canvass for election to the office, but he is known to be Senator Platt's choice for Speaker, and so it is settled that he will be Speaker. It is not necessary for him to wait for election before making up his list of committees with the aid of Senator Platt and the chairman of the State Committee. There was a hitch in the programme last evening, and

that is why "things are in the air." Mr. Odell came from his home in Newburg about noon yesterday, and in the headquarters of the State Committee he met Speaker Nixon, who had journeyed from his home in Chautauabout 4 p. m. Senator Platt joined them, and all three went up to Senator Platt's rooms to talk. Lieutenant-Governor Woodruff went up to the rooms in the evening, but he was sup posed to help "settle things." He was anxious to contradict a report that he was going to open headquarters at the Waldorf-Astoria and boom himself as a candidate for the Republican nomination for Vice-President. He declared that there was no truth at all in the report.

FALLOWS WON'T TAKE IT.

Assemblyman Edward H. Fallows, of this city, who has been talked of as a good man for chairman of the Assembly Committee on Cities, was at the Fifth Avenue Hotel a short time last evening, and talked with the men who were conferring in Senator Platt's rooms. He said as he was going away, that he would not be chairman of the Committee on Cities. He did not know who would be selected for the place. Some politicians close to Mr. Fallows had said earlier in the day that it had been settled that Mr. Fallows would not get the chairmanship. Mr. Fallows, they said, had decided that h could not accept the position with the confitions to be imposed. He would prefer to be in a position to oppose some legislation that might be favored by the Republication organization leaders. He could not promise to help jam through any legislation the leaders might favor.

Assemblyman Henry, of this city, who wants to be chairman of the Committee on Public Education, was at the hotel. He was chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs in the last Assembly.

Assemblyman De Graw, of Brooklyn, who was chairman of the Committee on Taxation and Retrenchment in the last Assembly, was at the tel and heard that he would not be reappoint- MONTREAL COMMISSIONERS AGREE TO SYNDIwas said, wanted another man to head the Committee on Taxation and Retrenchment the coming winter on account of the important work the committee will have to perform in connec tion with tax law revision.

Assemblyman Brennan, of Brooklyn, and Assemblyman Apgar, of Westchester County, were at the hotel to talk with Speaker Nixon. State Senators Elsberg and Krum and several Republican politicians who are not members of the Legislature spent some time in the hotel lobby

Much interest was manifested by the politiclans in the question of selecting an Assemblyman to take Robert Mazet's place as chairman of the Committee on Cities. They said that in view of expected amendments to the charter of this city the choice of a chairman for the committee was of much importance. All bills to amend the charter will have to go through the committee. Assemblyman Merton E. Lewis, of Rochester, has been talked of as the probable choice of the Republican leaders for the place, but it was reported among the politicians last evening that he would not get the place unless State Senators Armstrong and Parsons, of Rochester, could be induced to support a State Constabulary bill, and they had signified their

intention to oppose the bill. Some of the politicians said that Senator Platt was bent upon having a constabulary bill passed if possible in order to get the police force of this city out of Tammany hands and to make better business for the surety company in which his

son is interested.
"With the State Excise Department and the police under Republican control," one of the policians said, "all the liquor dealers of the city ticians said, "all the recovery owners Mr. Platt's comuld take bonds from young Mr. Platt's com-

ROOSEVELT MAY TAKE A HAND. The conference in Senator Platt's rooms broke

up early in the evening, and afterward Mr. Nixon went to the Hotel Cadillac for dinner. He did not reappear at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night, but he probably will have another talk with Mr. Odell to-day. Senator Platt said he intended to go to Washington this morning, and might return on Tuesday next. Mr. Odell said nothing had been settled as to Assembly committee chairmanships, but there would be another conference next week, and Governor Roosevelt might take a hand in trying to "settle veit might take a hand in trying to "settle things." Mr. Odell said there had been no de-cision as to the constabulary bill. "Senator cision as to the constabulary bill. "Senator Platt has been trying to ascertain what the public sentiment on such legislation is," he explained, "but we have not been thinking much about it for some time."

Many shrewd politicians have declared their belief that the plan to pass a constabulary bill has failed completely, and the leaders will not even have the bill introduced in the Legislature this winter.

this winter.

There was a report at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening that no Assemblyman from New-York City would be appointed to the chairmanship of an important committee. The leaders, it was reported, had decided that the Assemblymen from up the State were entitled to all the best positions, because the Republican majority came from up the State. Mr. Odell said there was no truth in the report. He admitted that Assemblyman Fallows did not want to be chairman of the Committee on Cities, but he said that another important chairmanship might be given to Mr. Fallows

It was the understanding among the politicians last evening that the following chairmanships would be retained by the holders:

Wass and Means—ALLDS, of Chenango.

Ways and Means—ALLDS, of Chenango, Judiciary—KELSEY, of Livingston, General Laws—FISH, of Madison, Ruitmads—BEDELIA, of Orange, Commerce and Navigation—REENNAN, of Kinga. Commerce and Navigation—RRENNAN, of Kinga.
Fisheries and Game—AXTELL, of Delaware.

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ALLEGED BRIBERY AT ALBANY.

MANY POLITICIANS MAY BE INDICTED FOR VIOLATION OF FRANCHISE LAW.

Albany, Dec. 1.-For corruption of the electorate and general violation of the franchise law it is likely that a score of prominent Republican and Democratic politicians here may be indicted by the Grand Jury when it sits next week. District Attorney Dyer is hard at work sifting evidence that has been presented to him, and if sufficient is adduced to show that a crime has been committed against the election law indictments will follow, which will probably result in the arrest of several well known poli-

Among other things it is alleged that between six thousand and eight thousand votes were openly purchased. It is said that at no time in the history of the city was money given and re-ceived so publicly. In one case a prominent city official is charged with having scrutinized the ballot of a voter in the booth after he had voted, the latter holding it up to the light so that the official could see for himself that the voter had kept to his part of the agreement.

HIGHER WAGES FOR COTTON HANDS.

FALL RIVER MILLS DECIDE TO GRANT A 10 PER CENT INCREASE.

Fall River, Mass., Dec. 1.-All the cotton manu facturers of this city represented in the Fall River dation to-day decided that they would grant an advance of 10 per cent in wages, beginning on Monday, December 11. The mill owners had in tended to make an increase of only 5 per cent, but action of M. C. D. Borden, of New-York, owner of the Fall River Iron Works, in posting notices on of the Fall River Iron Works, in posting notices on Wednesday ordering an advance of 10 per cent, backed up the contention of the operatives, and nothing was left for the association to do except to follow Mr. Borden's order. The Iron works are not represented in the association. The latter includes about thirty-six corporations, operating more than seventy-five mills in all, about twenty-eight thousand hands will benefit by the advance. The Textile Council has concluded to accept the new offer of the manufacturers and refer it to the mass meeting of the unions. This afternoon print cloths were advanced \(\frac{1}{2} \) of a cent, and at that figure the manufacturers say they can afford the full increase in wages. By not paying the advance on the same date as does Mr. Borden the manufacturers will save about \(\frac{1}{2} \).

No. 25 West Fifty-sixth-st., by a Tribune reporter, who asked him for the reasons which led him to increase the wages of the Fall River Iron Works employes to the extent of 19 per cent, when the other Fall River manufacturers wanted to make the advance only 5 per cent. Mr. Borden declined to discuss the situation more than to say: "Business warranted an increase of 19 per cent and I think the hands deserved it."

GENERAL WOOD GOING BACK TO CUBA.

HE HOPES TO STAY IN THE LINE OF THE ARMY FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

Washington, Dec. 1.-General Leonard Wood will eturn to Cuba next week. He says he expects to remain in the line of the Army as long as he lives and is permitted to remain.

CONGRESSMEN AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

VIEWS OF SENATOR O. H. PLATT ON CURRENCY LEGISLATION. Washington, Dec. 1.-The White House was overun with members of Congress to-day, but owing to Cabinet meeting few of them saw the President Among these were Senators Fairbanks and Bevertige of Indiana, Cullom of Illinois, Platt of Connecticut and Lindsay of Kentucky; Representatives Warner, of Illnois; Brownlow, of Tennessee; Gros-venor, of Ohio, and Steele, of Indiana. Senator Platt, who is a member of the Finance Committee said that the sub-committee at the meeting to-mor row would agree on the terms of the financial bill to be presented to the Senate. "Generally speak-ing," said he, "the Senate bill will be in agreement with the House bill. There will be several points of difference, but the essential features will be the same and the two houses will get together without

enator Platt thinks the passage of a financial by both houses is a foregone conclusion.

GRANT TO GRAIN EXPORTERS.

Montreal, Dec. 1.—The Harbor Commissioners of the port of Montreal to-day accepted the proposition made by Buffalo and Cleveland capitalists looking to an increase of grain exports through for a large elevator and freight sheds, and it in for a large elevator and freight sheets, and the turn agrees to build fifteen steam barges, with tows, all at a cost of \$1,100,000. The syndicate agrees to bring twenty-five million bushels of grain to Montreal next season and to increase this amount to thirty-five million bushels or more in 1901. A bond of \$20,000 is to be given.

MAY BE USED AGAINST GUATEMALA.

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT MOVING A FORCE OF MEN WITH LIGHT DRAUGHT STEAM

New-Orleans, Dec. 1 (Special).—Some weeks ago the Mexican government had constructed in New-Orleans several armored steamboats of light draught and a number of steel barges, the entire flotilia prepared for the reception of quick firing guns. They were supervised by General Monasterio, of the Mexican army, and at the time it was given out that they were for use against the Indians. News reached this city to-day that the General was now on the way with these vessels and a strong military detachment on an expedition against the Indians of Yucatan. The boats, which vere built in sections, have been put together by New-Orleans mechanics taken for that purpose

New-Orleans mechanics taken for that purpose.

According to the latest information, General Monasterio and his forces has left Corosal, on Chetumal Bay, and were proceeding up the Hondo River. It is not said what offence the Indians have committed, and the fact that the Hondo River penetrates into Guatemaian territory lends color to the rumor, circulated at the time the barges were first ordered, that they were to be used against Guatemaia. A man well informed in regard to the conditions existing says he does not believe a warlike expedition is planned, but that a military route is being prepared to the Guatemaia border, so that if the smaller republic continues its oppression of Mexican subjects the latter country will be within striking distance.

A merchant who has just arrived in New-Orleans from Guatemaia says President Cabrera has announced that the 10 cents a bunch tax on bananas exported was to fill an empty treasury, and would be removed about February 1. The same man says that Americans who signed the Hunter removal poetition are being persecuted. The Guatemaian government is fearing an uprising, and has massed its available troops at Zacapa.

HOW THE KHALIFA DIED.

HIS EMIRS AND HIS BODYGUARD PERISHED

Cairo, Dec. 1.—Officers from the Soudan who have arrived here say that when General Wingate's force overtook the Khalifa the latter tried to outflank the Anglo-Egyptians, but failed. Seeing his position was hopeless, the Khalifa told his Emirs to stay with him and die. He then spread a sheepskin on the ground and sat down on it, with the Emirs on either side of him. The Khalifa was found shot through the head, heart, arms and legs, and the Emirs were lying dead beside him. The members of his bedyguard were all dead in front of them. General Wingate's force swept over them without recognizing the Khalifa and his Emirs, but they were identified later. the Angle-Egyptians, but failed. Seeing his position recognizing the Khalifa and his Emirs, but they were identified later.

The Khalifa is described as of medium height, strong and stout, of light brown color and wearing a long, gray beard.

AUSTRALIAN CABINET CRISES.

Melbourne, Victoria, Dec. 1.—The Premier, Sir George Turner, has resigned. The Governor, Lord Brassey, has summoned A. McLean to form a new Ministry.

Brisbane, Dec. 1.-The Labor Ministry here will be short lived. Premier Dawson, on the meeting of the Legislature to-day, announced that he had formed a Ministry, and moved to adjourn until Tuesday. The House, however, by a vote of 36 to 26, refused to pass the motion. The Cabinet was thus defeated at the first sitting. POLAND! POLAND! POLAND! POLAND!
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A NEW ARMY PROPOSED.

RADICAL REFORMS URGED BY

SECRETARY ROOT. PROBLEMS IN INSULAR GOVERNMENT,

A PACIFIC CABLE AND OTHER IM-

PORTANT TOPICS DISCUSSED IN HIS REPORT.

Washington, Dec. 1 (Special).-Radical Army reorganization is the chief recommendation of Secretary Root in his first annual report to the President. From the time-four months ago to-day-when Secretary Root took charge of the War Department he has unceasingly studled the Army problem, of which the complexity and viciousness might have been expected to dishearten any ordinary man in the same manner that it affected most of his predecessors who successively retired from office after putting minor patches on the monster without ever

penetrating its extremely tough hide. Secretary Root's conclusions, which are urged on Congress with rare common sense and powerful argument, follow with singular precision the sharp lines laid down in The Tribune in the last year, during the agitation of the subject in this newspaper, beginning with its exposure at the end of the Spanish war of the lamentable breakdown of the antiquated staff system, which had gradually wormed itself into absolute control of the entire military service.

The Secretary of War, as was to be expected of a capable and fearless public official, proposes a thorough and sweeping reorganization of the wasting time with the ineffectual expedients of former heads of the War Department, who had to content themselves for various reasons with attempting or approving piecemeal reforms. Coming into office unhampered by the prejudices of earlier military experience he has evidently been impressed by the extreme urgency for prompt remedial legislation, striking at the very roots of the scandal breeding machine that stands for a National defence, and he has become firmly convinced that behind the most glaring and offensive influences of the cabal surrounding him the entire foundation of the present system was simply a clumsy makeshift to meet exigencies in the earlier days of the Republic which can never recur.

EIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS MADE.

Proceeding with the fundamental assumptions that the real purpose of an army is to provide for war, and that the United States regular establishment must be assisted by volunteers in the event of war, Secretary Root presents the following as the prerequisites of an effective American Army organization:

First-Study by officers of plans for action.
This involves the establishment of a War College similar to that of the Navy.
Second-Preparation of Material. Fortifica-

tions, ordnance, etc.

Third—Selection of officers according to merit.

(a) Staff officers to have temporary instead

(a) Staff officers to have temporary instead of permanent tenures.
(b) Abolition or modification of promotions by seniority.
(c) Staff officers to be selected for ability instead of "social or political influence."
Fourth—Great drill of troops.
(a) Appropriations for periodical mobilization and evolutions.
(b) Naval co-operation in manœuvres.
Fifth—Artillery branch should have a head.
Styth—inspectors general should be increased.
Seventh—Legislation is needed that volunteers may be properly organized and prepared for call to service.

Eighth-West Point Academy should be en-

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

Secretary Root's statement regarding the ima provement of the Army is in part as follows: Before July 1, 1901, when, under existing law present volunteer force must be and the present regular force restored to its peace basis of 26,610, we shall be compelled to face the practical necessity of providing for some increase of the Regular Army. It is manifest that however speedily the insurrection in the Philippines may be quelled we shall be re-quired to maintain for a long time in those isl-ands a considerable force to furnish the protec-

the Philippines may be queried we shall be required to maintain for a long time in those islands a considerable force to furnish the protection which the inhabitants are entitled to receive from us, and to maintain order among the savage and semi-civilized tribes which still exist in nearly every island. There is no occasion to doubt that the expense of this portion of the military establishment can readily and properly be defrayed from the insular revenues.

It is not conceivable that a practical people should expend the great sums we are devoting to our seacoast fortifications, and the delicate and complicated machinery of modern ordnance with which we are equipping them, and not provide an adequate force of men to care for, preserve and become familiar with the use of the guns and machinery. An increase in our artillery force will be absolutely necessary for this purpose. The present heavy artillery force is about one-fifth of the requisite number.

I beg to suggest that the manifoid services which have been rendered by officers of the Army of the United States during the last year in almost every branch of civil government, and the effective zeal and devotion which they have exhibited in succoring the distressed, teaching the ignorant, establishing and maintaining civil law, fighting against pestilence, introducing sanitary reforms, and promoting and alding peaceful industry, should be regarded as proof, if any were needed, that American soldiers do not cease to be American eltizens, and that no danger is to be apprehended from a reasonable enlargement of the Army which affords such evidence of its character and spirit.

It is greatly to be desired that at the same time, while the lessons drawn from the experience of recent war are fresh in our minds, some improvements should be made in the organization of the Army.

For many years various criticisms upon our importance of recent war are fresh in our minds, some improvements should be made in the organization of the Army.

ence of recent war are improvements should be made in the organization of the Army.

For many years various criticisms upon our present organization have been made and discussed, and a number of measures for improvement have been recommended by my predecessors or embodied in bills introduced in Congress. Some marked improvements have been made, notably the three battalion form of regimental organization, which, after being urged, by several successive Secretaries of War and advocated by all the high military authorities in the country for a generation, was finally authorized by the act of April 26, 1898.

As to most of the proposed changes, however, there has not been a sufficient public interest in the subject or a sufficiently strong conviction of the importance of good organization to overcome the diversity of opinions and personal interests desirous of being left undisturbed.

turbed.

The method of proposing and considering, one by one, specific remedies for specific defects does not seem to be an adequate treatment of the subject. It seems to me that the best course would be to settle upon the true principle which should govern the use to be made of the Army and then inquire in what respect our present arrangement fails to conform to that principle and make it conform.

ple, and make it conform. TWO FUNDAMENTAL PROPOSITIONS.

the consideration of the subject:

the consideration of the subject:

First—That the real object of having an Army is to provide for war.

Second—That the regular establishment in the United States will probably never be by itself the whole machine with which any war will be fought. The preparation of an army for war involves at least these four things:

First—Systematic study by responsible officers of plans for action under all contingencies of possible conflict, and with this, study of the larger problems of military science and the most complete information of the state of the art, study of the constant improvements in implements and methods of warfare, and of the adaptability of improvements and inventions for the purpose of carrying out the plans devised, and study of the arrangement of territorial and

and study of the arrangement of territorial and POLAND! POLAND! POLAND! POLAND! Recommended by eminent physicians for purity.-Advt.